

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CANBER 02954 190806Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-05 INR-10 /043 W  
-----074696 200512Z /15

R 190652Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3030  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
CINCPAC  
CINCPACFLT  
PACAF  
JCS

S E C R E T CANBERRA 2954

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MILI, SN, XO, AS  
SUBJECT: P-3 FLIGHTS THROUGH SINGAPORE, USE OF AUSTRALIAN  
FACILITIES AT TENGAH

REF: (A) STATE 87517 (DTG 052037Z APR 78), (B) CANBERRA 3874  
(R 170749Z APR 78)

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN REPLY FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONFIRMING AUSTRALIA'S SUPPORT  
FOR US P-3 FLIGHTS TRANSITING SINGAPORE TO AND FROM THE  
INDIAN OCEAN AREA:

BEGIN TEXT: I REFER TO YOUR LETTER OF 7 APRIL 1978 CONCERNING  
YOUR GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR OCCASIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE  
RAAF DETACHMENT STATIONED AT THE RSAF BASE TENGAH IN SUPPORT  
OF THE PROPOSED U.S. P-3 FLIGHTS WHICH WILL TRANSIT SINGAPORE  
TO AND FROM THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA.

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I CAN CONFIRM THAT AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT TO THE EXTENT OF  
THE PRESENT CAPABILITIES OF THE RAAF SUPPORT UNIT AT  
TENGAH CAN BE PROVIDED. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT  
THE ASSISTANCE SOUGHT TO THE RAAF SUPPORT UNIT AT TENGAH  
IS LIMITED TO REFUELING, GENERAL GROUND HANDLING, CREW  
WEATHER BRIEFING AND CUSTOMS CLEARANCE. PLEASE NOTE,  
HOWEVER, THAT THE RAAF SUPPORT UNIT DOES NOT HAVE THE

CAPABILITY AT TENGAH TO PROVIDE CREW WEATHER BRIEFING.  
THE RSAF PROVIDES THIS SERVICE. THE OTHER ASSISTANCE  
DETAILED ABOVE APPLIES TO U.S. NAVY P-3 AIRCRAFT TRANSITING  
SINGAPORE ON FLIGHTS TO AND FROM THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA AT  
AN INITIAL FREQUENCY OF NO MORE THAN FOUR PER MONTH.

IT IS ALSO CONFIRMED THAT THE AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT REQUIRED  
BY THE UNITED STATES MAY BE ARRANGED THROUGH SERVICE-TO-SERVICE  
CHANNELS. END TEXT  
ALSTON

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SURVEILLANCE, MILITARY FLIGHT CLEARANCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CANBER02954  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780168-0853  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 87517, 78 CANBERRA 3874  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**SAS ID:** 2923296  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** P-3 FLIGHTS THROUGH SINGAPORE, USE OF AUSTRALIAN FACILITIES AT TENGAH  
**TAGS:** MILI, SN, XO, AS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/98928bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014